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THE URBAN DISTRICT OF KNUTSFORD

1962

ANNUAL REPORT

AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF KNUTSFORD

BY

WILFRID H. PARRY

M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR

THE URBAN DISTRICT OF KNUTSFORD.





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Additional Public Health Inspector	-	P. Darbyshire, M.A.P.H.I.

KNUTSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Knutsford.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Knutsford Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1962.

Population

The Registrar General estimates the population for mid-1962 at 9,670, an increase of 210 on 1961

Births

Registered live births numbered 155 (79 male, 76 female) giving a rate of 16.0 per 1,000 population, compared with 18.6 in 1961, a decrease of 2.6. The rate for England and Wales was 18.0, an increase of 0.6 on the previous year. Of the 155 births, 149 (76 male, 73 female) were legitimate and 6 (3 male, 3 female) were illegitimate. The percentage of illegitimate births continued to rise, being 3.9 against 3.4 in 1961 and 0.87 in 1960.

There were 2 stillbirths (1 male, 1 female), a decrease of 1 on the previous years' figure of 3 (4 in 1960). The rate of 12.7 per 1,000 total births was 4.3 lower than that for 1961. The rate for England and Wales was 18.1, a decrease of 0.6.

Deaths

The number of deaths registered during the year was 251 (117 male, 134 female). A ratio to the population of 1 in 38.5 or a death rate per 1,000 of the population of 14.6 as compared with 12.3 for 1961. The average for England and Wales for 1962 was 11.9, a decrease of 0.1.

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis in 1962, compared with one in 1961 and 1960. There were 30 deaths from all forms of cancer as against 20 for 1961, an increase of 10. Deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus, however, fell by 4, numbering 3 (2 male, 1 female) as against 7 (6 male, 1 female) in 1961.

The increases in cancer deaths were mainly in those of cancer of stomach (8 compared with 3 in 1961) and in other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms (17 compared with 8 in 1961). The death rate from all forms of cancer was 3.1 per 1,000 population and that from cancer of the lung and bronchus 0.31 compared with 1.68 and 0.51 respectively for the whole of the country.

There was an overall increase in deaths attributable to disease of the cerebro- and cardio-vascular systems. A total of 150 deaths (122 in 1961), of which 32 were coronary artery disease (25 in 1961), 50 to other diseases of the heart (49 in 1961), and 68 to vascular lesions of the brain (48 in 1961). It is very pleasing to report a fall in the number of deaths due to congenital malformations (1 compared with 4 in 1961).

Infant Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age registered during 1962 numbered 3. This is 3 less than in 1961 and 5 less than in 1960. The rate per 1,000 live births for 1962 was 19.3 which was 14.7 lower than for 1961 and 26.4 lower than for 1960, whilst the rate for England and Wales was 20.7, the lowest rate recorded in this century. The number of neonatal deaths was 2 giving a rate of 12.9 per 1,000 live births. The figures for 1961 were 4 and 22.7 and for 1960 they were 4 and 22.9. The rate for England and Wales for 1962 was 15.1, a decrease of 0.4.

Maternal Mortality

There were no maternal deaths during the year. This is the second year running, in which there have been no deaths from puerperal or post-abortive sepsis. The last maternal death occurred in 1960.

Infectious Diseases

There were only 8 cases of infectious disease (of which 4 were measles) notified during the year, compared with the 175 cases of measles in 1961. Two cases of tuberculosis (1 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary) were notified in 1962, one of which was discovered during the Mass Radiography Survey.

Mass Radiography Survey

An important feature of tuberculosis prevention was the visit of the No. 3 Mass Radiography Unit to Knutsford and Mobberley between the 17th and 31st July, 1962. The last visit of the Unit being four years ago in 1958.

Full details of the survey are given in the main report. Briefly, however, during the survey period, 2,653 persons were X-rayed (1,407 male, 1,246 female) of whom 1,363 were general public, and 1,290 from factories or offices.

Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis requiring treatment or close observation (compared with 2 in 1958) were found. In addition, 2 cases of neoplasm (cancer) of the lung were detected (compared with 1 in 1958).

A highlight of the survey was the excellent co-operation between Dr. Rimington (Unit Medical Director) and his staff, and the staff of the Public Health Department, which went a long way to make the survey a success.

Sewage

The new sewage scheme commenced during 1961 continued throughout 1962, work being concentrated on providing additional surface water sewers to prevent road flooding. In 1963, a start will be made on the reconstruction of the sewage disposal works.

Food Hygiene

Details are given in the report of the 31 food samples taken during the year for analysis, and of a successful prosecution. Fifty-eight milk samples were taken, all but one were satisfactory. The unsatisfactory sample concerned a dairy outside the district.

It is pleasing to report substantial improvements made to 3 of the school canteens following representation to the appropriate authority.

Closet Conversions

An important survey of all remaining waste water closets in Knutsford was made during the year. A decision was reached by the Council that where necessary, these waste water closets be converted to a W.C. at the joint expense of the owners and the Council. Twenty-six properties were served with the appropriate notice, and conversions commenced in 1963.

Housing

Time and place notices were served in respect of 8 houses, and in 2 cases, an undertaking was accepted by the owners not to relet when the present tenancies expire. These properties will be demolished in due course, During the year, further progress, albeit slow, was undertaken in slum clearance: 3 houses closed: 21 undertakings obtained not to relet; 12 properties reconditioned and 11 proceedings in hand by the end of 1962.

Twenty new Council houses are to be built in 1963 for the rehousing of slum dwellers.

New Houses

Once again, there was a falling-off in the building of new houses: 48 as against 58 in 1961 and 88 in 1960. Of these, 46 were built by private developers and 2 special old persons' houses were built by the Council.

Improvement Grants

It is very regrettable that so few applications have been received for discretionary or standard grants for improving properties in 1962. A total of 9 discretionary grants and 8 standard grants were received and approved, details of which are given in the report.

Once again, I am grateful for the keen interest and support of members of the Health Committee, and for the loyalty and assistance extended to me by Mr. Butler and Mr. Darbyshire and other staff of the Health Department.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

WILFRID H. PARRY,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART I

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District	2,485 acres.
Average Height above sea level	210 feet.
Registrar General's mid-year Estimate of population	9,670
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1962) per rate book	3,060
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1962	£117,371.
Sum represented by a penny rate (31st March, 1963)	£480.

VITAL STATISTICS

	1962	1961
Live Births		
Number	155	176
Rate per 1,000 population	16.0	18.6
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.3	17.3
General Birth Rate (England and Wales)	18.0	17.4
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	3.9	3.4
Still births		
Number	2	3
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	12.7	17.0
Total live and still births	157	179
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 Year)	3	6
Infant Mortality Rates		
Total Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	19.3	34.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	20.1	35.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate livebirths	0	0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	12.9	22.7
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	12.9	11.4
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	25.4	28.0
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)		
Number of deaths	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	0	0
Total deaths	251	203
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	26.0	21.5
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population	14.6	12.3
General Death Rate (England and Wales)	11.9	12.0
Deaths from Tuberculosis	0	1
Deaths from Cancer	30	20
Deaths from Accidents	1	5

The population figures given are for home population and the birth and death rates are based on this figure. The standardised rates are arrived at after allowing for the age and sex distribution of the population, thus giving a fairer comparison with those of other areas.

The death rate comparability factor is adjusted specifically to take into consideration the presence of any residential institution in each area. This makes provision for the deaths occurring in Cranford Lodge Hospital amongst the aged persons and thus gives a better comparison with the rate for the rest of the country.

PART II TABLES

TABLE I

LIVE BIRTHS

1962

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Totals	1961
Males	76	3	79	84
Females	73	3	76	92
	149	6	155	176

TABLE II

STILL BIRTHS

1962

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Totals	1961
Males	1	0	1	1
Females	1	0	1	2
	2	0	2	3

TABLE III

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

1962

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Totals	1961
Males	3	0	3	4
Females	0	0	0	2
	3	0	3	6

TABLE IV

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

1962

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Totals	1961
Males	2	0	2	3
Females	0	0	0	1
	2	0	2	4

The causes of the infant deaths were as follows:-

Prematurity - 2

TABLE V.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified 1962
Scarlet Fever	2
Whooping Cough	0
Diphtheria (including Membraneus Croup)	0
Measles (excluding Rubella)	4
Meningococcol Infection	0
Acute Poliomyelitis -	
Paralytic	0
Non-Paralytic	0
Acute Encephalitis -	
Infective	0
Post Infectious	0
Dysentery	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0
Smallpox	0
Paratyphoid Fevers	0
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (exc. Paratyphoid)	0
Food Poisoning (exc. dysentery typhoid and paratyphoid fevers)	0
Tuberculosis -	
Respiratory	1
Other	1
Erysipelas	0
	8
1961	175

TABLE VI

Number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year ended 31st December, 1962

2

Comparative Table of Cases of Tuberculosis notified during the past 10 years

1952	-	4	1957	-	1
1953	-	5	1958	-	3
1954	-	6	1959	-	1
1955	-	1	1960	-	6
1956	-	3	1961	-	0

TABLE VII

Deaths from Tuberculosis registered during the year ended 31st December, 1962

0

TABLE VIII

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1962 AND CAUSES

	Male	Female	Total	1961 Totals
All Causes (Certified 251) (Uncertified 0)				
(1) Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0	0	1
Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0	0
Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0
(2) Whooping Cough	0	0	0	1
Meningococcol Infections	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	3	8	3
(3) Malignant, neoplasm, lungs bronchus	2	1	3	7
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	2	2	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	0	0	1
Other malignant and lympatic neoplasms	9	8	17	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	2	3	0
Diabetes	0	2	2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	28	40	68	48
(4) Coronary disease, angina	19	13	32	25
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2	1
Other heart disease	16	26	42	41
Other circulatory disease	2	4	6	7
Infleunza	2	0	2	2
Pneumonia	2	4	6	7
Bronchitis	14	3	17	12
Other diseases of respiratory system	0	0	0	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0	0	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	1	1	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of prostrate	2	0	2	0
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0	0
(5) Congenital malformations	1	0	1	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	24	34	27
Motor vehicle accidents	0	0	0	2
All other accidents	1	0	1	3
Suicide	2	0	2	0
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0	0
1962 Total:	117	134	251	203
1961 Total:	88	115	203	

The majority of deaths are those associated with old age, i.e. with the cardio vascular system and cancer in its various forms.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY IN KNUTSFORD

A fourth visit to Knutsford and district was made by the No. 3 M.M.R. Unit between 17th and 31st July, 1962 the previous visit having beem made in late October and early November, 1958.

I am grateful to Dr. J. Rimington, the Medical Director of the Unit for the following details:-

During the visit, the Unit set up at the following places:-

The Nuclear Power Group, Radbroke Hall, Knutsford.
Ilford Limited, Rajar Works, Mobberley.
Shaw Heath Social Club, Shaw Heath, Knutsford.
The Youth Club, Town Hall, Knutsford.

Public Sessions, including evening sessions, were arranged at the Shaw Heath Social Club and the Youth Club. In addition, the employees of firms in the vicinity were X-rayed at these two centres.

The Public Sessions were widely publicised in the area, by means of a house to house distribution by leaflets, by posters, newspaper announcements and a film strip shown at the local Cinema.

In accordance with the Regional Hospital Board's policy, no arrangements were made for the X-ray examination of school children.

The following figures summarise the results of the Survey. An analysis of the age and sex distribution of examinees has not been given in this report, as the sampling method used to compile these statistics becomes progressively less accurate as the figures fall below five thousand. The figures given have been compiled from the actual record cards and are accurate.

Number X-rayed	Males	Females	Total
Factories/Offices	948	342	1,290
General Public	459	904	1,363
Total:	1,407	1,246	2,653

LIST OF ABNORMALITIES FOUND	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis for occasional supervision	5	6	11
Tuberculosis for close supervision or treatment	1	2	3
Malignant neoplasms	2	-	2
Non-malignant neoplasms	-	1	1
Sarcoids	1	-	1
Congenital cardiac and vascular abnormalities	-	1	1
Acquired cardiac and vascular abnormalities	1	4	5
Congenital abormalities of bony thorax	-	1	1
Acquired abnormalities of bony thorax	1	-	1
Bacterial and virus infections of lungs	3	1	4
Fibrosis	5	3	8
Abnormalities of diaphragm	-	1	1
Miscellaneous abnormalities	-	1	1
Failed to attend for further investigations	2	1	3

COMMENTS

1. There was a fall in the number of General Public X-rayed as compared with 1958. This may have been due to many people being away on holiday at this time of year, as there is no set holiday period in Knutsford. The response from industry was approximately the same as in 1958, in spite of some reduction in the number available.

2. Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis requiring treatment or close observation were discovered whereas only two were found in 1958. The small numbers involved rule out any reliavle statistical deductions.

3. Two malignant neoplasms were found as compared with one in 1958, and numerous other less serious abormalities were detected, which, nevertheless, required further investigations or treatment.

 All the abnormal cases were referred to their own dectors, the majority for further investigations at the Chest Clinic or Hospital.

TABLE IX

COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF VITAL STATISTICS

Year	Total Population	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Deaths	Death Rate	Deaths of Infants under 1 year
1911	5983	113	22.0	63	12.3	9
1915	5378	94	19.1	62	12.3	6
1920	5035	107	21.2	65	12.9	7
1925	5499	69	12.5	45	8.3	4
1930	5846	84	14.2	50	8.5	5
1935	5681	61	10.7	58	10.2	2
1940	6306	77	12.2	80	12.7	3
1945	5620	95	16.9	74	13.2	6
1950	6357	90	14.2	67	10.5	0
1951	6576	100	15.2	90	13.7	0
1952	6530	90	13.8	124	19.0	1
1953	6805	105	15.4	157	11.0	0
1954	7090	101	15.0	233	13.3	2
1955	7200	98	14.4	240	10.8	3
1956	7470	96	12.8	211	11.3	2
1957	7720	132	17.1	175	11.1	3
1958	7980	129	15.8	203	14.6	4
1959	8870	144	15.4	194	13.1	5
1960	9400	175	17.3	205	13.1	8
1961	9460	176	17.3	203	12.3	6
1962	9670	155	15.3	251	14.6	3

From 1951 onwards the total deaths include those of non-Knutsford residents occurring in Cranford Lodge Hospital, i.e. long stay cases of chronic sickness.

From 1953 onwards the death rate is that estimated for Knutsford residents only (i.e. excluding deaths of non-Knutsford residents in Cranford Lodge Hospital).

National Health Act Services and Services provided by the Cheshire County Council

A. Services provided in accordance with the requirements of the National Health Service Act, 1946

1. Hospital Services

Controlling Body - Manchester Regional Hospital Board.
Local Hospitals - Administered by North and Mid-Cheshire Hospital Management Committee.
Secretary - Mr. E. Foden, Administrative Offices, Altrincham Maternity Home, Sinderland Road, Altrincham.

2. Hospitals serving this area:

General Acute Cases - Cottage Hospital, Knutsford.
Altrincham General Hospital.
Maternity Hospital - Cranford Lodge, Knutsford - 10 beds.
General Chronic Cases - Cranford Lodge, Knutsford.

A large number of cases from Knutsford are also treated in Manchester and District Hospitals.

3. General Practitioner and General Dental Services

Controlling Body - National Health Service Executive Council for Cheshire.
Clerk - Mr. F. Hayter, 28 Nicholas Street, Chester.

4. Services of Local Health Authority - Cheshire County Council

1. Ambulance Service	Altrincham Divisional Health Committee.
2. Immunisation and Vaccination	
3. Care and after care	
4. Home Help Service	
5. Maternity and Child Welfare	County Council Health Committee.
6. Domiciliary Midwifery and District Nursing.	
7. Dental Service - Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Pre School Children	
8. Mental Health Service - Mental Welfare Officers: Mr. Thompson, Mr. Hopkinson, Miss Jones — 5 School Road, Sale.	

The Divisional Health Committee area covers Hale U.D.C., Bowdon U.D.C., Altrincham M.B., Knutsford U.D.C. and Bucklow R.D.C. and includes members of these Authorities, members of the County Council and co-opted members.

Divisional Medical Officer and District M.O.H. for the above districts. - Dr. W.H. Parry, M.D., D.P.H. from March 1962 onwards.

B. Other Services by other Committees of Cheshire County Council

1.	Education Committee	- School Health Services, including School Dental Service.
2.	Welfare Committee	- Old persons care and attention, homeless, handicapped persons, provision for residential accommodation - County Welfare Officer - Mr. Evans, County Hall, Chester.
3.	Children's Committee	- Provides for the care of deprived children, i.e. children not under parental care.
	Children's Officer for this area	- Mr. J. Blades, 53/55 George Street, Altrincham.

C. Services available in Knutsford

1.	Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, Immunisation and Vaccination	- County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford. Every Wednesday at 2 - 4 p.m.
2.	Young Peoples Clinic	- Fourth Thursday afternoon in each month - 2.0. p.m. - 4.0. p.m. by appointment.
3.	Hearing Clinic	- Alternative Friday mornings by appointment.
4.	School Clinic - County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford.	
	(a) Minor Ailments Clinic	- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - 9.0. - 10.0. a.m. as required.
	(b) Doctors Session	- By appointment as required.
	(c) Dental Clinic	- Each Tuesday morning and afternoon.
	(d) Eye Clinic	- Third Thursday afternoon each month, by appointment.
	(e) Speech Therapy Clinic	- Each Tuesday morning by appointment.
5.	Health Visitors	- Nurse Dawson, County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford. Nurse Pickford, County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford.
6.	District Nurses and Midwives	- Nurse Tierney, 1, Westfield Drive, Knutsford. Nurse Stone, 22 Townfields, Knutsford.
7.	Relief District Nurses and Midwives	- Nurse Buckley, 7, Ascol Drive, Plumley, Nr. Knutsford.
8.	Ambulance Station	- Town Hall, Altrincham - Altrincham 3256.

All enquiries in connection with the above services should be made to:-
Dr. W. H. Parry, Medical Officer of Health, The Mount, Altrincham.
Tel. Altrincham 5323/4.

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector for the Year ending 31st December, 1962

WATER SUPPLY

The Statutory Undertaking for the supply of water to the Urban District is the Manchester Corporation Waterworks Department and I am indebted to the Engineer and Manager for the following information:-

"Knutsford has been supplied with mixed Thirlmere and Haweswater water. Typical analysis is as follows:-

JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1962

TYPICAL CHEMICAL ANALYSIS (as taken from house taps).

pH value		6.9
Colour as p.p.m. platinum		16
Turbidity, p.p.m. silica scale		0.6
	Parts per million	
Total solids dried @ 180°C.		37
Free acidity as CO_2		2
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$		14
Total hardness as $CaCO_3$		22
Chlorides as Cl_2		6
Oxygen absorbed test, 4 hours @ 27°C		1.38
Silica as SiO_2		2
Iron as Fe		0.04
Manganese as Mn		0.01

The water supply is liable only to slight variations during the year.

Thirlmere water is neutralised with hydrated lime at the head works so as to give a pH value around 7 in the town area. Haweswater has a similar pH value without neutralisation. The mixed water contains less than 0.2 p.p.m. lead after standing in contact with lead service pipes overnight.

Two hundred and forty three (243) bacteriological samples were collected in the south-western distribution area during the year with the following results:-

Total number of samples	243	
Samples free from coliform bacteria	218	89.7%
Samples free from faecal B coli	231	95.1%
Samples with faecal B coli present	12	4.9%
Samples with non-faecal B coli present	23	9.5%

SAMPLES WITH B. COLI PRESENT

Number of B. coli present in 100 mls of water.	Types of B. coli present			
	Faecal B. coli		Non-faecal B. coli	
	No. of samples	Per cent	No. of samples	Per cent.
1	12	4.9	19	7.8
2	--	---	1	0.4
3	--	---	2	0.8
13	--	---	1	0.4
	12	4.9	23	9.4

The above coliform bacteria were derived from "aftergrowths" in deposits in mains. On the same days as the 25 samples with B coli present were taken, 63 other samples were also taken and these were B. coli-free or excellent.

Of the 25 samples with coliform bacteria present, 13 samples contained only 1 B. coli per 100 mls and 21 contained not more than 2 B. coli, of which 10 samples contained 1 faecal B. coli per 100 mls.

The water has been of excellent chemical quality and very satisfactory bacteriological quality throughout the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council operate two refuse collection vehicles: a Karrier 18 cu.yd. dual tip machine and a 12 cu.yd. S. & D. Freighter. A new Karrier 12 cu.yd. dual tip machine has been ordered to replace the S. & D. Freighter which is now 8 years old and when this is delivered the old vehicle will be retained as a spare.

A weekly collection of house refuse is maintained, with the exception of August week, when the department is closed down for a week whilst the crews take part of their annual holiday.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Shaw Heath Tip, where a full-time attendant is employed. In April, the Contractors for the new Motorway deposited a large amount of surplus excavation on the tip and from this our covering needs will be met for a considerable time. The Bristol Caterpillar Tractor which was purchased for tip control does an excellent job although it has not yet been possible to find a suitable operator and as was anticipated maintenance costs were heavy.

SALVAGE

A separate collection of waste paper was provided to business premises during the year and the following table shows the amount and value of waste paper collected compared with the previous year:-

	Tons.	Cwt.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.
1962	40	4	3	275.	1.	1.
1961	49.	6	3	372.	5.	3.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

All the sewerage from the Urban District with the exception of a small area east of King Street, which is pumped through a rising main into the King Street sewer, is carried by gravitating sewers to the disposal works on the bank of the Birkin Brook on the north-east boundary of the town.

In 1961 work began on a new sewerage scheme to be carried out in the following stages:-

(i) The laying of additional sewers and surface water drains to obviate flooding.
(ii) The laying of additional sewers to provide for further development.
(iii) Major reconstruction and enlargement of the sewage disposal works.

During the year under review progress continued with stages 1 and 2 and during the next year a start will be made on Stage 3.

Arrangements have been made with the Bucklow Rural District Council to take the sewage from the service area of the new Motorway and for this purpose a rising main will be laid from the service area to the Council's sewer in Bexton Road into which the sewage will be pumped.

HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS

Eight establishments are registered for the purpose of the Cheshire County Council Act, 1953.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health:-

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	NUMBER OF Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	30	8	1	-
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	2	1	-	-
TOTALS:	35	9	1	-

OUTWORKERS

Two residents in the area were notified as outworkers, both in the making of wearing apparel, and the circumstances found to be satisfactory.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

At the beginning of the year there were four industrial boiler installations in the district, but one of these has been dismantled following the closing down of the business. Of the others, one has been converted to oil burning, making a total of two oil fired installations and one with automatic stokers. None of these give cause for complaint during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council have one part-time operator who has been trained in rodent control by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and domestic properties are treated free of charge.

The following table gives details of infestations and treatments carried out during the year:-

	Local Authority	Private	Business and other	Totals of Cols. 12.2.3	Agricultural.
1. Number of properties in Local Authy's District	8	2987	332	3319	13
2. Properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	-	37	18	55	2
(b) Survey under the Act	-	78	23	101	-
(c) Otherwise	8	81	59	148	5
3. Properties found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major & Minor)	4	53	12	65	2
(b) Mice (Major & Minor)	1	23	8	31	-
4. Infested Properties treated by the L.A.	5	76	20	96	2

DISINFESTATION

Four treatments were carried out for the eradication of cockcroaches during the year.

REMOVAL OF WAR DEAD

The removal of the remains of the German Armed Forces interned in the Cemetery was carried out in the early part of the year when general supervision was exercised in accordance with Home Office requirements.

MILK SUPPLIES

There are four distributors of milk operating from premises in the district registered under the Milk and Dairies (General Regulations) 1959, and all of these obtain their milk already bottled from the larger establishments outside the area.

Since the County Council took over the responsibility for the issue of dealers special designation licences, they now take routine samples of milk in the area and during the year 58 such samples were taken. All of these proved to be satisfactory, with the exception of one which failed to pass the methylene blue test, and this concerned a dairyman whose premises were outside the district.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The Cheshire County Council are the Authority for the taking of samples under the above Act and I am indebted to Mr. Howard Hughes, Chief Weights and Measures Inspector, for the following details of samples taken in the district during the year:-

SAMPLES TAKEN	Number	Number of Non-Standard Samples
Arrowroot	1	-
Aspirin (Junior)	1	-
Brandy Flavour	1	-
Cider	1	-
+ Ham (Boiled)	1	1
Ice Cream (Cornish)	1	-
Ice Lollie	1	-
Iodine (Tinc.)	1	-
Milk (Fresh)	17	-
Oranges	1	-
Pepper (White)	1	-
Rum	1	-
Sausage (Pork)	1	-
Sweets (Seaside Pebbles)	1	-
Tea	1	-
	31	1

PARTICULARS OF ADULTERATED/NON-STANDARD SAMPLES:

2495 - Ham (Boiled) - + Containing parts of a fly. Fined £5. Costs £6. 8s. Od.

PARTICULARS OF COMPLAINTS FROM PRIVATE PURCHASERS

	COMPLAINT FROM		COMPLAINT	REMARKS
1.	Housewife.		Mouldy meat pie	Referred back to Public Health Inspector. Complainant not prepared to come forward as a witness.
2.	Householder		Screw in meat pie	Caution.
3.	Householder	+	Ham (Boiled) contained parts of a fly.	Seller fined £5. Costs £6. 8s. Od.

With regard to the complaints from private purchasers these were received by this Department in the first instance and referred to the Weights and Measures Department for investigation and any necessary action.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the town, both of which maintain a high standard of hygiene and of the quality of meat produced. The practice of weekend slaughtering persists, entailing meat inspection duties out of normal office hours during the weekends.

The number of carcases inspected and the number affected with disease is shown in the following table:-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	490	0	0	2195	9	0
Number inspected	490	0	0	2195	9	0
Diseases except T.B. & Cysticerci carcases condemned	0	0	0	1	0	0
Carcases part or organ condemned	22	0	0	17	0	0
Percentage with disease other than T.B. & Cysticerci	4.5%	0	0	0.82%	0	0
Tuberculosis only	0	0	0	0	0	0

In addition the following foodstuffs were condemned as being unfit for human consumption:-

Meat		78 lbs.
Fish		37 lbs.
Chickens		22
Tongues		2 tins.
Ham		1 tin.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS

9 licences to slaughter in accordance with the above Act were issued during the year.

FOOD HYGIENE

There are 82 food premises in the district and during the year improvements were carried out at 5 of these. In addition, the complete reconstruction of the kitchen at one of the hotels was commenced as part of a larger scheme. Substantial improvements were also made to three of the school canteens as a result of representations to the responsible authorities.

CLOSET CONVERSIONS

A survey has been made of all the waste water closets in the area and as a result of this it was decided that where a dwelling was served by only a waste water closet that this be connected to a W.C. at the joint expense of the owners and the Council. Accordingly, notices under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936 were served in respect of 26 properties in the Middle Walk/Moordale Road area and it is hoped that the conversions will be commenced in the new year. When these have been completed it is proposed to adopt the same procedure in Cranford Avenue, after which no property will be served solely by a waste water closet.

HOUSING - SLUM CLEARANCE

Notice of time and place in accordance with Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 was served in respect of 8 houses and in two cases an undertaking from the owner to bring the houses up to the required standard was accepted whilst for the remainder undertakings not to re-let upon the expiration of the present tenancies were accepted and these houses will ultimately be demolished.

The position at the end of the year with regard to the Council's Slum Clearance Programme is as follows:-

Houses demolished.....	81
Houses closed	3
Undertakings not to relet held.....	21
Properties Reconditioned	12
Proceedings in hand	11
	128

It is anticipated that 20 new Council houses will be commenced in 1963, the majority of which will be devoted to re-housing families at present in slum properties.

NEW HOUSES

The number of new houses completed during the year again showed a decrease, 48 as against 58 for 1961. Of these 46 were built by private developers and two were old folks dwellings provided by the Council.

9 discretionary grants were approved during the year, 6 of which were for improvements to existing houses, one was for the conversion of other buildings into a dwelling and the other two were to convert each of two large houses into two self-contained flats. The total amount of grant was £2,301. 10s. 0d.

8 applications for standard grants were received and approved and these covered the provision of 7 internal W.C's., 7 baths, 7 wash-hand basins, 6 food stores and a supply of hot water in 7 cases. 2 applications for standard grants were refused as the properties were likely to be affected by road widening within the next fifteen years.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received and no action under the Rent Act was required.

STAFF

I would like to record my appreciation of the services of Mr. P. Darbyshire, Additional Public Health Inspector, both during the year under review and in the compilation of this report. He has devoted the whole of his time to Public Health administration, whilst I had to undertake other duties, and he has carried out all duties entrusted to him with marked ability. I am grateful to him for his co-operation and loyality on all occasions.

GEO. R. BUTLER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.